

---

**Name of Organization:** Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

**Type of Organization:** State

**Contact Information:** Mr. Art Techlow

DNR

625 E. County Road Y, Ste. 700

Oshkosh WI 54901

**Phone:** (920) 424 - 3001 **Extension:**

**Fax:** (920) 424 - 4404

**E-Mail:** Techla@dnr.state.wi.us

---

**Project Title:** Migratory Waterfowl Response to Zebra Mussels

**Project Category:** Exotic Species

**Rank by Organization (if applicable):** 2

**Total Funding Requested (\$):** 9,804 **Project Duration:** 2 Years

**Abstract:**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has conducted aerial surveys of migratory waterfowl on the Winnebago system since the 1940's. These surveys ended with budget cutbacks in 1995. Since then, zebra mussels have invaded the Winnebago system. Migratory waterfowl, particularly diving ducks, have been attracted in higher numbers to many waterbodies invaded by zebra mussels. The Department proposes to renew the aerial census of migratory waterfowl on the Winnebago system during both spring and fall to help determine their response to zebra mussels.

---

---

**Geographic Areas Affected by the Project**

**States:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> New York
<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin
<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohio

**Lakes:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Superior	<input type="checkbox"/> Erie
<input type="checkbox"/> Huron	<input type="checkbox"/> Ontario
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> All Lakes

**Geographic Initiatives:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Chicago	<input type="checkbox"/> NE Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/> NW Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> SE Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake St. Clair
--	----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	---

**Primary Affected Area of Concern:** Fox River/Green Bay, WI

**Other Affected Areas of Concern:** Lake Winnebago System

---

***For Habitat Projects Only:***

**Primary Affected Biodiversity Investment Area:**

**Other Affected Biodiversity Investment Areas:**

---

**Problem Statement:**

Zebra mussels are now present and expanding in the Winnebago system. This area is an important stopover point for migratory waterfowl. Aerial surveys of migratory waterfowl on the Winnebago system date back to the 1940's, but ended in 1995. The response to zebra mussels by migratory waterfowl cannot be reliably documented unless the aerial census is renewed.

**Proposed Work Outcome:**

Aerial surveys would be conducted on a weekly basis from late September through mid-November and from late March through mid-April. Survey routes and altitudes would match those done in previous years to maintain continuity of the long-term data set.

---

---

**Project Milestones:**

**Dates:**

Begin aerial waterfowl survey.

09/2000

End aerial waterfowl survey.

11/2000

Begin aerial waterfowl survey.

03/2001

End aerial waterfowl survey.

04/2001

Begin aerial waterfowl survey.

09/2001

End aerial waterfowl survey.

11/2001

Begin aerial waterfowl survey.

03/2002

End aerial waterfowl survey.

04/2002

---

☐ Project Addresses Environmental Justice

**If So, Description of How:**

☐ Project Addresses Education/Outreach

**If So, Description of How:**

---

**Project Budget:**

	<b>Federal Share Requested (\$)</b>	<b>Applicant's Share (\$)</b>
<b>Personnel:</b>	3,420	180
<b>Fringe:</b>	684	36
<b>Travel:</b>	0	0
<b>Equipment:</b>	0	0
<b>Supplies:</b>	0	0
<b>Contracts:</b>	0	0
<b>Construction:</b>	0	0
<b>Other:</b>	5,700	300
<b>Total Direct Costs:</b>	9,804	516
<b>Indirect Costs:</b>	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	9,804	516
<b>Projected Income:</b>	0	0

---

**Funding by Other Organizations (Names, Amounts, Description of Commitments):**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will cost share 5% of the project.

---

**Description of Collaboration/Community Based Support:**

Verification of waterfowl response to zebra mussels will be through food analysis of waterfowl killed during fall hunting seasons. Specifically, two University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh student interns (one for each fall season) will collect, fix and analyze stomach (proventriculus) contents of waterfowl killed by hunters. A number of local hunters and hunting clubs have expressed an interest in cooperating on this project. The University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources are collaborative partners on a number of natural resource projects on the Winnebago system.